



Why Common Spaces Are Important In Dormitories?

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Abstract

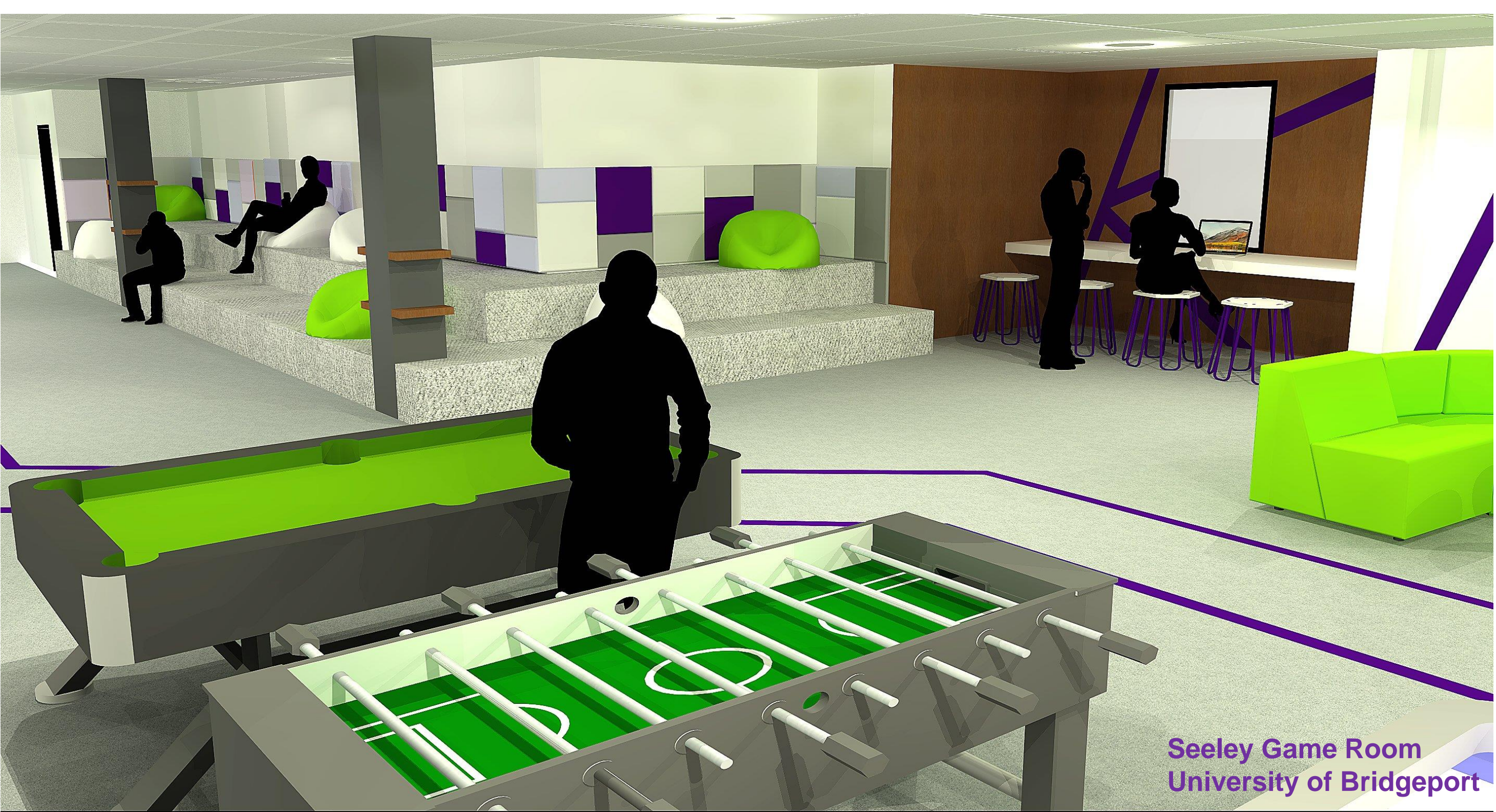
With increased diversity, common places in students’ residential have helped schools to embrace diversity positively. They enhanced equity among all students and encouraged them to work in harmony even in classes. This has been possible through interaction based mode of learning which has equipped students with interpersonal skills that will help them cope even in the real world.

Introduction

A lot has been made over the quality of the education system. A significant portion of the debate has been the ability of the education system to produce all rounded citizens of the world. This has especially been the case with the increasingly global nature of the modern world aided by advancements in technology and increasing diversity at the workplace. To address these emerging issues, colleges and universities have been tasked with developing the interpersonal skills and diversity tolerance of the students. This has contributed to a need to include well planned residence halls with common places that allow the students to develop these skills.

Findings

A combination of factors such as the current demands of the marketplace and technological advancements has led to significant changes in academic pedagogy [1]. These changes have seen a shift towards a more project oriented and interaction based mode of learning as the preferred model in most institutions.



Proposed Design 1 By: Angelica Haravata and Rachael Watcke

Proposed Design

College Dorm life is a fast moving, busy, and on the go way of living. Between classes, clubs, eating well, and other social duties, students are constantly on the go. When they settle down for a night in or have a break in the day, their favorite way to kick back is with friends in lively spaces. Through surveys and endless discussions, students at the University of Bridgeport spend about half their time in the dorm working on homework and the other half having good times with friends. With this being said, having adequate spaces for these activities will spark more interest from all students living on campus.



By: Angelica Haravata and Rachael Watcke



Proposed Design 2 By: Rose Vilay and Jasmine Lanagan



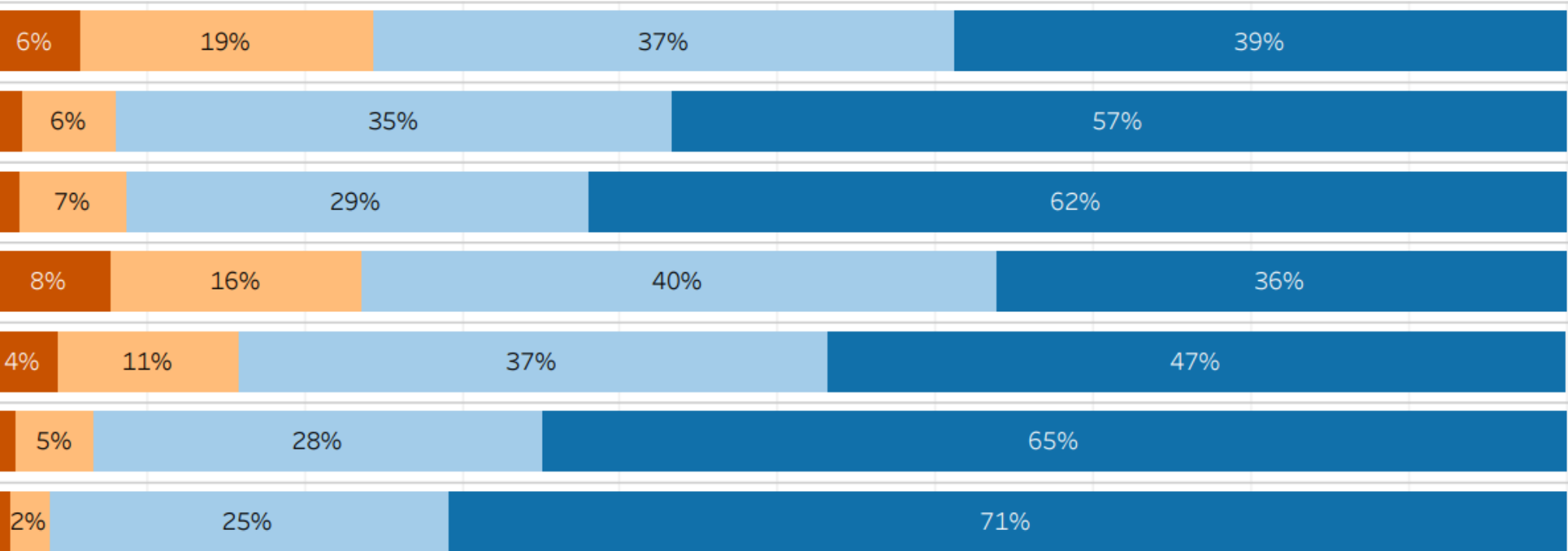
SEELEY HALL RESIDENCE

Conclusion

The need for shared spaces in the current academic climate is increasingly required. The changing global perspective of work and the increasing diversity of communities have necessitated the development of interpersonal and tolerance skillsets for success in the real world and due to technology, the ideal locations to spur these skills is shared spaces in dormitories.

References

[1]- Nugent, J. (2012). Residential common spaces that really work: a post-occupancy study. Planning for Higher Education, 41(1), 234-244.
[2]-studentlife.mit.edu, “Dorm Life Survey”,Available:<https://studentlife.mit.edu> [Accessed March -2- 2019]



In a research conducted by Massachusetts Institute of Technology, respondents “agree” or “slightly agree” that study breaks and events in the dorms allow them to socialize (96%), relax (93%), get to know their community (92%), have a meal (91%), manage stress (84%), learn about themselves and others (76%), and do things they wouldn’t do otherwise (76%) [2]. The importance of common places where students can aggregate and conduct such tasks outside the classroom and in a relaxed environment is one of the reasons that the common places have become more important for today’s age. Vibrancy on campus has been shown to be responsible for increased persistence and academic excellence in students.